MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Done! Another year in the books, topping it off with a flawless, in-person commencement—our first since 2019. Hats off to friends of the college, our faculty and staff, and everyone who showed up for this special occasion for our newest class of PharmDs and PhDs!

In particular, I thank Scott Giberson who met with students, faculty and staff to deliver a seminar about leadership. His keynote speech to students was also inspiring, putting into context many of the challenges our graduates will face when they begin their careers in health care.

I also thank the two Huskies who came out to welcome our Coug graduates to the professional ranks. Washington State Pharmacy Association CEO Jenny Arnold and President Ryan Oftebro led the Oath of a Pharmacist for our students, which ended with Jenny and Ryan giving us a “Go Cougs!” in unison. Jenny and Ryan are such wonderful people and having their presence at our commencement ceremony is just another example of the close-knit and supportive professional community we have built in the Pacific Northwest. All of the pomp and circumstance of commencement week would not have been possible without the support of our friends at Albertsons Companies who sponsored commencement and our awards ceremony. On behalf of the college, I thank our supporters and everyone who took part in this rite of passage.

Also, a sincere thank you to all who donated April 13 for #CougsGive. In total, we raised over $8,000 which will go toward helping students with tuition and paying for travel costs so that they can present at various conferences. This placed our college in 12th place for fundraising out of a total of 28 units. I know all who contributed, and I thank you for your support.

Finally, I always enjoy sharing some of the interesting stories I hear when I’m on the road visiting our alumni across the state. In April, we honored Jim and Diann Robbers as Laureates of the university at the WSU Foundation Gala in Seattle. Jim, class of 1957, and a superb pharmacognosist, spent his career at the Purdue College of Pharmacy working on ergot alkaloids, which have incredibly interesting pharmacological effects. I used Jim’s textbook (7th edition) as a pharmacognosy student in the early 1980s—and he signed it for me when Kelly Sylvester and I visited the Robbers last summer. Jim and Diann have been very strong supporters of research in the college. Jim, a wonderful man and sharp as a tack, told me a story of hosting Albert Hofmann for a seminar visit at Purdue. Many of you will know Albert Hofmann as a Swiss chemist and the first to synthesize LSD, which can be derived from ergot alkaloids. Hofmann “accidentally” ingested LSD while synthesizing it and “perceived an uninterrupted stream of fantastic pictures, extraordinary shapes with intense, kaleidoscopic play of colors” for about two hours. The next day (April 19, 1943) Hofmann purposefully ingested 0.25 mg of LSD to confirm the effects of the previous day—you know, kind of a repeat experiment deal. His second trip, which was apparently much less pleasant than his first, involved an interesting bicycle ride home from work that is well described in the lay literature. The rest is psychedelic history, as they say. Jim told me that the audiences at Hofmann’s two talks at Purdue were absolutely
huge, and largely composed of hipsters from all over Indiana and surrounding states. I guess these folks had some previous experience with the ergot derivatives and they were just interested in the Science. Interestingly enough, LSD and psilocybin are making a comeback for treatment of PTSD and depression—I’m just happy that I took TWO semesters of pharmacognosy from Mel Gibson (former professor in the college—not the actor) using Jim Robbers’ textbook!

Until next time, I hope you all have a wonderful month of May and Memorial Day weekend.

Sincerely,

Mark Leid
Professor and Dean
WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Top Stories

CPPS returns to in-person graduation celebrations for 2022

On Thursday, May 5, the Washington State University (WSU) College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS) celebrated the accomplishments of nine doctor of philosophy (PhD), and 160 doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) graduates at its 2022 commencement ceremony. Family, faculty and friends gathered at the The Fox in downtown Spokane to honor the graduates.

Throughout the pandemic PhD students remained on campus and in the labs while doctor of pharmacy students transitioned to distance learning during the spring 2020 semester as well as in the 2020-21 academic year. Since doctor of pharmacy students spend their fourth year on Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotations, this was the first time many had seen each other since March 2020.

Admiral-retired Scott Giberson gave the keynote address and shared how he believes that the past two decades of challenging events has prepared 2022 graduates to make a true difference in health care.

“The overwhelming health impacts across the last two decades have seeded the unique opportunity for you to embrace. Do not underestimate the pulpit you have been given as a health care professional to catalyze change,” said Giberson.

Giberson was formerly the Assistant US Surgeon General and two-star admiral with the US Public Health Service. He also served as the acting Deputy Surgeon General of the United States in 2013 and 2014. Admiral Giberson retired from active duty to become president of AMI Expeditionary Healthcare.

Student speakers at the ceremony were PhD in pharmaceutical sciences and molecular medicine graduate Tarana Arman, and pharmacy graduates Christa Laosantos (Spokane) and Trevor Schultz (Yakima).

2022 DOCTOR OF PHARMACY STUDENT AwarDEES

Graduating doctor of pharmacy student awards were presented at a special celebration the day prior to commencement. In addition, Naomi Bender, director of Native American Health Sciences, presented honoring blankets to graduating Native American students. In Indigenous traditions and histories, the blanket ceremony recognizes and celebrates the achievements and other accomplishments of individuals.

Misty Lefler, who was unable to attend the awards ceremony in person, was also recognized.
One graduating veteran was also recognized during the celebration. Colton Sorensen was on active-duty military service while pursuing his doctor of pharmacy degree. In his third year of pharmacy school, he was asked to deploy to Georgia. During his eight-year service in the US Marine Corps he was stationed abroad in Lithuania, Georgia, Afghanistan, and Qatar.

**Larry B. Bettesworth Health Systems Pharmacy Student Award**

Presented by Sean Dobbin, pharmacy executive director for Providence in Montana and Washington, the award was established to honor Larry Bettesworth, and his legacy as an outstanding pharmacist leader, teacher and mentor of many. The award recognizes students who are pursing continued professional training in a health-system pharmacy residency program and that have demonstrated significant contributions in health-system pharmacy, pharmacy professional associations and have actively engage in student leadership/volunteer opportunities.

**Excellence in Scholarship Award**

For a second through fourth-year student pharmacist in good academic and professional standing and demonstrates outstanding achievement in scholarship.

**College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Faculty Award**

For a student from each campus who are voted by faculty who exhibit outstanding grades, membership and participation in professional organizations, and strong work characteristics in the classroom and community.
Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information: Facts and Comparisons Award of Excellence in Clinical Communication
For being in the top 25 percent of the class and demonstrating superior verbal and written clinical communication skills.

US Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award
For pharmacy students that make significant contributions to public health. Faculty nominate students for this award in November each year.

VIATRIS™ Excellence in Pharmacy Award
For being in the top 25 percent of the class, demonstrating high personal motivation, possessing a unique ability to communicate drug information, and the intent to enter practice upon graduation.

Merck Award for Academic Excellence
For the students with the highest academic achievement in the class.

Graduating PharmDs achieve record 2022 residency matches
WSU PharmD students topped previous year’s accredited residency match rate at 71 percent up from 67 percent the previous year, according to the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (ASHP), which coordinates the official match process for pharmacy schools nationwide. This year, 34 WSU PharmD students out of 48 matched.

Residencies are post-graduate training programs which allow new pharmacists to perform as a licensed practitioner to train under the supervision of an experienced preceptor. Residencies are highly sought-after positions to help pharmacists gain experience, leadership skills, advance their growth of clinical judgment, and hone their skills as a practicing pharmacist.
Following graduation this May, Shannon Patterson will be entering residency at the University of North Carolina Hospitals specializing in hospital administration and leadership.

“Absolute shock,” was how Patterson described her reaction when she learned that she had matched. “The residency application process is overwhelming, unpredictable, and joyful. Throughout the process I kept a completely open mind and ranked to my core values.”

“WSU does a great job of training their student pharmacists to be well-rounded individuals in addition to the clinical training. They emphasize leadership, communication, resiliency, and other soft skills that many people don’t learn until they are working out in the real world,” said Trevor Schultz, who matched with MultiCare Good Samaritan in Puyallup, Washington. “WSU also focuses heavily on growth mindset and lifelong learning. I have had several preceptors comment on the positive differences they notice between WSU students and students from other programs.”

The college has seen consistent growth in residency matches each year. Ambulatory care, acute care, hospital administration and leadership, are just some of the areas of specialization that WSU PharmD graduates will focus on in their residencies this year.

“Our student pharmacists continue to set residency match records, and it’s a testament to the hard work, dedication, and quality of care that is instilled in them as future care providers,” said Associate Dean for Professional Education Jennifer Robinson.

WSU pharmacy students not only found success in residency matches this year, but many have also gone on to start community pharmacy positions directly after graduation. The COVID-19 pandemic has served as a launching pad for student pharmacists with many of them interning and volunteering to administer COVID-19 vaccines and administer tests starting their second year in the program.

Celebrating college excellence

Across Washington State University (WSU) spring is a time to recognize those who go above and beyond, making an impact in their programs, the university, and their communities. Along with the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS) internal awards, students, faculty and staff are also recognized by WSU Health Sciences and by the university. It is with great pride the college announces the following CPPS Student Awards, WSU President’s Awards for Leadership and WSU Health Sciences Chancellor’s Excellence Awards received by CPPS students and faculty.

**CPPS STUDENT AWARDS**

CPPS Student Awards are selected by the faculty and recognize students who have shown a commitment to academic performance, leadership, scholarship, service and professionalism. This year’s recipients received their awards during our recent Celebrating Excellence and Generosity events in Yakima and Spokane. Graduating doctor of pharmacy students received their awards separately during commencement celebrations.

**Rising Star Award** is given to a first-year student pharmacist in good academic and professional standing. This individual is making strides in leading, advancing, promoting and protecting human health.
Excellence in Patient Care and Outreach
To be nominated for this award, a student must demonstrate good academic and professional standing as well as exemplify outstanding patient care.

Excellence in Leadership
To be nominated for this award, a student must demonstrate good academic and professional standing as well as outstanding achievement in scholarship.

THE PRESIDENT’S AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP
Every year, leaders across Washington State University are chosen for the President’s Award for Leadership in honor of their exceptional leadership and service to students, WSU and the community. This year, three pharmacy students and one pharmacy student organization were recognized during a ceremony on the WSU Pullman campus in April.

Excellence in Patient Care and Outreach awardee Elissa Chung, Yakima class of 2024

Excellence in Leadership awardee Olivia Hiskey, Spokane class of 2023

Kellyan Nguyen, Spokane class of 2022
Alice Pisto rese, Spokane class of 2023
Kiersten Stintzi, Spokane class of 2023

APhA-ASP Spokane, WSU Spokane was also selected for the Registered Student Organization of the Year.

CHANCELLOR’S EXCELLENCE AWARDS
The Chancellor’s Excellence Awards are bestowed annually to students, faculty, staff and community partners who advance leadership and engagement at WSU Health Sciences. Recipients of these awards demonstrate exceptional leadership and service to the university and the community and/or support leadership development and engagement of WSU students.

The chancellor presented the awards during an in-person ceremony in April. The college is pleased to announce the following eight CPPS awardees.
Chancellor’s Legacy Award
The Chancellor’s Legacy Award recognizes graduating students whose influence, ideals and activities throughout their college career have had a lasting, positive impact at WSU Health Sciences.

Presented to Kellyan Nguyen, Spokane class of 2022.

Chancellor’s Excellence Award, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
The Diversity and Inclusion Award recognizes a staff member who demonstrates leadership and innovation in enhancing diversity and increasing a climate of inclusion in ways that will have an impact on health or healthcare, and effective mentoring of students, staff and/or faculty.

Presented to Pharmacotherapy Assistant Professor Nicole Rodin.

Chancellor’s Excellence Award in Leadership
The Chancellor’s Leadership Award honors students for leadership and academic contributions to the campus, commitment to advancing diversity, and passion for innovation and ingenuity in their chosen field

A NOTE FROM JULIE AKERS
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It seems I blinked, and April already passed. Did that happen for the rest of you?

Celebrations are always a fun way to start a month, so we doubled down and had events in both Yakima and Spokane. Celebrating Excellence and Generosity was held in Yakima on April 8 and Spokane on April 14. Both events honored the generosity of those who donate to student

Chancellor’s Legacy Award
This award recognizes graduating students whose influence, ideals and activities throughout their college career have had a lasting, positive impact at WSU Health Sciences.

Presented to Kellyan Nguyen, Spokane class of 2022.

Vice President’s Student Leadership and Community Engagement Scholarship

Olivia Hiskey, Spokane class of 2023
Kennedy Erickson, Spokane class of 2023

Todd Riddle, Yakima class of 2023
Olivia Hiskey, Spokane class of 2023
Frank Liu, class of 2023

Kellyan Nguyen, Spokane class of 2022
scholarships and celebrated student success and awards. Thank you to those who attended!

April also brought the return of the Allen I. White Lectureship, an endowed fund established in memory of Dr. Allen I. White to bring distinguished lecturers to the college whose work has important implications for the scientific, social or political aspects of pharmacy. This year we were fortunate to have Dr. Robert G. Gish, MD as our esteemed speaker. Dr. Gish contributes to many schools of medicine and pharmacy, clinics, and foundations around the world related to hepatitis and liver health. His talk was both educational and inspiring.

Dean Mark Leid, Senior Director of Development Kelly Sylvester and I were able to visit six pharmacies on our way to Basalt Cellars in Clarkston for the first ever CougaRx Nation Alumni event in the Lewis-Clark Valley on April 28. We visited with alumni and father/son team Mark (‘82) and Nathan (‘18) Johnson at Tick Clock Drug in Colfax. If you have ever been in their store, you know we couldn’t resist doing some shopping! Our stop at Sid’s Pharmacy in Pullman to visit owner William Edwards (‘03) resulted in a wonderful surprise, Sid himself! It was awesome to see Sid Pierson (‘72) still passionate about pharmaceutical care and contributing to the great work happening there. Once Kelly opened her eyes back up after going down Lewiston Hill (I threatened her with the old spiral highway but kept to the main road seeing how scared she was), we found ourselves visiting with Carol Ard (‘90) at the Lewiston Albertsons, Andy Pottenger (‘14) owner of Hells Canyon Pharmacy and then Todd Kolb (‘97) and Jerry Bailey (‘93) at Owl Southway in Lewiston and Owl Tri State in Clarkston. The CougaRx Nation event at Basalt Cellars was a great way to cap the evening. Thank you to Rick Wasem (‘80) and his amazing team for hosting the event. Although the crowd was small, there was great conversation and good odds winning prizes! We finished our trip to the LC Valley having breakfast with Mike and Natasha Stamper, both class of 2010. You can see photos from our visits and learn more about what pharmacy alumni in the Lewis-Clark Valley are up to in the Alumni Updates section of this newsletter.

We look forward to a return to Seattle for the CougaRx Nation event on May 19 and the Fred Meyer Alumni Mentor reception at the NW Pharmacy Convention. We hope to see you there!

With my best and, as always, Go Cougs!

Julie Akers, Associate Dean of External Relations
WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Spotlight on Success
Graduating student reflects on pharmacy school during pandemic

Elizabeth Satterwhite, class of 2022, reflects on her experience attending pharmacy school during a global pandemic. Following her graduation on May 5 she will be taking part in an ambulatory care residency at the Providence Sacred Heart Pharmacotherapy Clinic in Spokane, Washington.

What has been the greatest struggle for you as a pharmacy student going through this pandemic?

I think the greatest struggle for me was remaining motivated to study and learn. I found the third-year fall semester to be where I struggled the most – there was always work to do and I felt fatigue setting in.

What sort of advice can you offer students who are going through their didactic experiences right now?

The best advice I can offer is to have a group of classmates that are your friends that you can rely on. Don’t worry if you haven’t identified them yet, I
didn’t find my group of friends until the spring semester of my first year (PY1). Find those people that motivate you to come to class and inspire you to ask questions and learn together. When the going gets tough, they have your back and you have theirs.

I also really suggest being involved. I know it sounds cliché, and your schoolwork should always come first, but diving into extracurriculars is such a great way to reinforce what you learn at school. You will also get better at talking to people, networking/meeting people, and it will help you develop leadership skills like conflict resolution, time management and more.

That being said – PLEASE give yourself down time. Get at least seven hours of sleep a night. It’s so important. If you’re trying to study and you’re reading the same line over and over again, give yourself 15 minutes to walk around or browse social media to reset your brain. Give yourself break time. You deserve it.

How do you destress from pharmacy school?

I have several ways to destress. I have five cats and most of them like to play, snuggle and get pets. Exercise is also a good way to destress. I ran Bloomsday last year and enjoyed training for that. During the spring and summer months, I love growing vegetables in my garden. Going over to a friend’s house or going out for dinner is also a good way to relax and unwind.

If you could rewind time to do something differently in pharmacy school, what would it be?

There are several events that I did not attend my second year (PY2) spring semester because that is a busy semester for students. I didn’t go to the Washington State Pharmacy Association (WSPA) Legislative Day (Leg Day) and I didn’t go to a Brother Retreat that my fraternity Phi Delta Chi put on in Pullman due to a work conflict. If I had known the pandemic was about to hit and how much it would change things, I would have gone to both of those. That’s why it’s so important to do things, even if you don’t feel like it – tomorrow isn’t guaranteed!

What has been the most rewarding experience during this pandemic while in pharmacy school?

I think the pandemic really made me realize the importance of friendship, building relationships, and helping the next generation spread their wings. That made me commit to remaining involved at WSU during my fourth year. The most rewarding experience has been the people I have met and gotten to know better that wouldn’t have otherwise happened if I had not decided to be more involved.

What are you proud of now that you’re on the tail end of your pharmacy school experience?

I’m proud of myself for getting through it! I’m proud of myself for successfully juggling school, extracurriculars, work, exercise, a home life and a social life – it’s a lot!

Student Spotlight: Sonja Christensen APhA-ASP Region 7 Delegate

Second-year pharmacy student Sonja Christensen was recently appointed as the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) Region 7 Delegate, a national position. Christensen shares what she hopes to accomplish in the position and the importance of advocating for the pharmacy profession.

Why did you choose to pursue your doctor of pharmacy degree and why did you choose the WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences?

My grandpa and dad are both pharmacists, and they are a major reason for why
I chose to go into the field of pharmacy. I have helped work as a pharmacist technician and intern for the past 6 years at the independent pharmacy run by my family in Ketchikan, Alaska. During my time as a pharmacist technician, I witnessed first-hand how pharmacists are the most accessible and closest access to health care, and pharmacists serve as a major bridge between providers and patients. I was inspired by the quality of care my dad and grandpa gave to each one of their patients and the amount of trust the patients had for them. I chose the WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in particular because they offer great opportunities to get involved in policy and service at the community and state level. I also had the privilege of knowing amazing pharmacists who went to the WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and they all recommended this school to me.

**What do you want to accomplish during your term as the Region 7 Delegate?**

During this term, I hope to engage more students to get involved in learning about the policy processes of pharmacy and get them excited about having a voice in their profession. I also hope to advocate for the wellbeing and care of pharmacists, student pharmacists, pharmacist technicians, and patients.

**What motivated you to pursue the position?**

I pursued this position because I am passionate about advancing the profession of pharmacy and being an advocate for patient care. I specifically pursued this position because I have seen the new and old problems in the world of pharmacy, and I know that the best way to initiate change is to get involved and do your best to advocate with your own voice. One event in particular that made me make the extra step in pursuing this position is the pandemic. I have witnessed the dilemma of burnout and tough working conditions in the world of pharmacy. However, these problems have escalated since the pandemic started, and I knew I needed to do my part and get involved in policy for pharmacists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians. The pharmacy profession has made incredible strides to go beyond their past responsibilities and sacrifice their time and energy to extend their care to patients. I want to continue advocating for the advancement of the pharmacy profession so we can increase the access of care for all patients and decrease the overall cost of health care.

**Why do you believe it is important to get involved in student groups?**

There are so many important reasons why it is essential to get involved in student groups. First of all, I have been able to make lifelong friends and supportive mentors with WSU student pharmacists from different cohorts. I have also built relationships with professors, community staff members, and preceptors through my role as APhA-ASP regional delegate and operation immunization chair-elect. Pharmacy school is a huge challenge and you have to juggle your mental health, social life, physical health, and so much more with your academics. Being involved in student groups allows you to meet other students going through the same struggles and stressors so you don't feel alone. I have also found that student groups remind you of why you decided to go into pharmacy and the various passions you have for your life, which helps you from getting burnt out and manage your time better.

**What is the most pressing issue you hope to bring to the table as Region 7 Delegate?**

The most pressing issue I hope to bring to the table as Region 7 Delegate is the issue of safe staffing and work conditions, particularly in chain pharmacies. I also hope to bring awareness and promote support for pharmacies getting properly reimbursed for the services they provide to their patients by all state, federal, and private insurances.

**What is the best advice you ever received and why?**

The best advice I have ever received is “Get comfortable with being uncomfortable.” You will never grow and make changes if you don’t go outside your own box. I try to go outside my comfort zone and meet someone new every single day. Everyone has a unique voice and perspective, and learning from other people is how I grow and make amazing life-long connections. Once you learn that you have power over your own fears, you start to achieve your goals and fear no longer controls you.
Anything else you want to add?

I wouldn’t have had the courage to run for Region 7 Delegate if it wasn’t for my supportive family, mentors, and friends. My mom, dad, and sister have been my number one cheerleaders from the very start of my pharmacy career and I don’t know what I would do without them. I also want to give a big shout out to my mentor and APhA-ASP’s current national president, Kennedy Erickson. She has provided endless support and encouragement to me during my first two years in pharmacy school, which is the major reason why I was able to go outside my comfort zone and obtain various leadership roles.

Congratulations, class of 2022!

On May 4-5, 2022 the college celebrated the successes of its graduating students with the Graduating PharmD Awards and 2022 commencement ceremony.


PHILANTHROPY FOCUS

For nearly ten years, the college has been fortunate to partner with the Albertsons Companies to create a memorable and elegant commencement celebration for our PharmD and PhD graduates. This year’s commencement, held in-person for the first time since 2019, was a resounding success with over 800 guests in attendance. We’d like to express our sincere gratitude to the Albertsons Companies for their involvement and support. Quite simply, we could not host a commencement event of this caliber without it. We’d also like to recognize the Albertsons team that attended commencement to pin our students with their new CougaRx Nation lapel pins.

Alumni News

Felicia Gaskins, widow of Bill Gaskins (’69), was on campus May 3 to meet with recipients of the William and Felicia Gaskins Scholarship. Bill and Felicia established scholarships at the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences as well as Pullman Regional Hospital. Felicia brought gifts from Bill’s collection of mortar and pestles for all the scholarship recipients and Dean Mark Leid.
James Robbers (’57) and Diann Robbers were recently honored as Laureates at the WSU Foundation Gala in Seattle on April 27. At the event, new Laureates (lifetime giving of $1 million+) and Crimson Benefactors (lifetime giving of $500,000+) were recognized and thanked for their generosity to WSU. Jim and Diann have established a scholarship at the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences to assist PhD students with travel to professional conferences and their endowment also funds the annual Research Day at the college. Congratulations to Jim and Diann on this remarkable achievement. Although Jim and Diann Robbers were not able to attend the event in person, the college was well represented by Dean Mark Leid and John and Deborah Oftebro.

On our recent visit to the Lewis-Clark Valley, we held a CougaRx Nation event at Basalt Cellars. Basalt Cellars is owned by pharmacy alumnus Rick Wasem (’80). On our trip we met with several pharmacy alumni in the cities of Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington, as well as independent pharmacy owners in Colfax and Pullman, Washington.

Congratulations to Mark Johnson (’82), who is gradually retiring from Tick Klock Drugs in Colfax, and handing over the reins to his son Nathan (’18). Mark and his wife Robin recently celebrated their 30 years of marriage with a trip to Hawaii for the entire family.

We had a quick visit with William Edwards (’03) who purchased Sid’s Pharmacy in Pullman a few years ago from Sid Pierson (’72). Sid still works part time at the pharmacy and this year will celebrate 50 years as a licensed pharmacist!

Todd Boyd Kolb (’92) is enjoying his long-term career at Owl Pharmacy in Lewiston. We also visited with Andy Pottenger who owns Hells Canyon Pharmacy in Lewiston.
Michael ('10) and Natasha Stamper ('10) are busy with their careers and raising two young daughters. Mike works as a pharmacy informaticist and clinical pharmacist at St. Joseph’s Medical Center in Lewiston. Natasha works as a clinical pharmacist at Niimipuu Health Clinic in Lapwai, Idaho for Indian Health Services. Natasha has also established a following as a fertility pharmacy specialist.

Want to be listed in our alumni updates? Send us your career information or let us know what you’ve been up to at pharmacy.gocougs@wsu.edu!

**Other News**

**Come rain or come shine**
2020 Carson College of Business graduate and 2022 College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences graduate get engaged at stormy Washington State University graduation ceremony.
[Read more from the Moscow-Pullman Daily News](#)

**Learning in lockdown: adapting a reproductive health campaign for pandemic life**
Third-year pharmacy students Brook Kotlatz, Kaitlan Belocura, and Kennedy Erickson established the Pharmacists for Reproductive Education and Sexual Health (PhRESH) subcommittee of WSU's chapter of the Washington State Pharmacy Association (WSPA) in early 2020. When COVID-19 paused their plans for in-person poster presentations, they pivoted to online presentations and were ultimately able to reach more people than would have been possible otherwise.
[Read more from Pharmacy Times](#)

**Fentanyl involved in more than half of overdose deaths in Washington state and Spokane County in 2021**
Deaths from fentanyl overdoses in Washington have increased by 845% in the past five years. Pharmacotherapy Assistant Professor Nicole Rodin recently talked to The Spokesman Review about the dangers of fentanyl.
[Read more from The Spokesman Review](#)

**WSU expanding mental health resources**
Students systemwide will soon have access to a suite of mental health resources including after-hours crisis counseling, self-help tools, an online referral network, and peer support.
[Read more from the WSU Insider](#)

**Office of Research releases FY2020 Research Annual Report**
The Office of Research recently released the FY2020 Research Annual Report featuring outstanding research conducted at Washington State University.
[Find out how to view the FY2020 Research Annual Report](#)
Faculty Scholarship

PUBLICATIONS

Pharmaceutical Sciences Graduate Student Rakshit Tanna (Paine lab), Pharmaceutical Sciences Graduate Student James Nguyen (Paine lab, PharmD ’20), Pharmaceutical Sciences Program Manager Deena Hadi, Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine Department of Translational Medicine and Physiology Professor Matthew Layton, Pharmacotherapy Chair and R. Keith Campbell Distinguished Professor in Diabetes Care John White, Pharmaceutical Sciences Professor Mary Paine and six co-authors published, “Clinical pharmacokinetic assessment of kratom (Mitragyna speciosa), a botanical product with opioid-like effects, in healthy adult participants,” in Pharmaceutics in March 2022.

J. Roberts and Marcia Fosberg Distinguished Regents Professor of Pharmacotherapy and Director of the Drug Information Center Danial Baker published, “Drug evaluation – sirolimus protein-bound particles for injection suspension (albumin-bound) (Fyarro),” Wolters Kluwer Health’s The Formulary Monograph Service (FMS) in March 2022. Wolters Kluwer Health is a drug and health information publisher, the FMS is a resource used in the formulary decision making process for hospitals and managed care systems on recently released and investigational drugs.


Drug Information Center Resident Regan Smith, Pharmacotherapy Clinical Professor and Director of Quality Assurance Improvement & Accreditation Preparation Terri Levien and Danial Baker published, “Drug evaluation – hepatitis B vaccine (Recombinant) (PreHevbrio),” in the FMS in March 2022.


Regan Smith and Danial Baker published, “Drug evaluation – daridorexant (Quviviq),” in the FMS in April 2022.


Pharmacotherapy Associate Professor (Yakima) Rustin Crutchley and one co-author published, “Sub-analysis of CYP-GUIDES data: assessing the prevalence and impact of drug-gene interactions in an ethnically diverse cohort of depressed individuals,” in Frontiers in Pharmacology in April 2022.

Pharmacotherapy Assistant Professor (Yakima) Dana Bowers and seven co-authors published the continuing education, “Infectious diseases pharmacy specialty recertification literature study,” through American Society of Health-System Pharmacists in April 2022.


PRESENTATIONS

Pharmacotherapy Vice Chair & Allen I. White Distinguished Professor Josh Neumiller served as a special guest
panelist for the iForumRx podcast titled, “Top ten things every clinician should know about the 2022 medical standards of care for diabetes,” on April 21, 2022.

SERVICE
Pharmaceutical Sciences Associate Professor Sue Marsh co-chaired a symposium titled “Innovative techniques for developing an inclusive teaching environment,” at the 2022 Experimental Biology meeting, April 4, 2022, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Rustin Crutchley has been appointed the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Pharmacogenomics Special Interest Group chair-elect. This is a three-year commitment: Chair-elect for one year, chair for one year, and immediate past chair for one year.

Pharmacotherapy Assistant Professor Damianne Brand-Eubanks successfully completed the Washington State University year-long Provost Leadership Academy.

Danial Baker has been elected to the Board of Directors for The Route of the Hiawatha Bike Patrol for 2022-2024.

AWARDS
Danial Baker was selected for the United States Pharmacopeia (USP) Healthcare Safety and Quality Expert Committee – FY20 Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Standards.

The follow faculty and staff were chosen for WSU Health Sciences Chancellor’s Excellence Awards, presented in April 2022, for their demonstration of exceptional leadership and service to the university and the community and/or support leadership development and engagement of WSU students:

– Chancellor’s Excellence Award in Service – Pharmaceutical Sciences Associate Professor and Director of Industry Engagement Bhagwat Prasad
– Chancellor’s Excellence Award in Research and Scholarship – Pharmaceutical Sciences Professor Mary Paine
– Chancellor’s Excellence Award, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Pharmacotherapy Assistant Professor Nicole Rodin
– Chancellor’s Excellence Award, Group/Department – Pharmacy Business Services Office

Student Achievement

PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES AND MOLECULAR MEDICINE STUDENTS
The following students successfully passed their final defense:

– Phillip Wibisono, April 12, 2022

Rakshit Tanna (Paine lab) won second place in the graduate student poster competition for his poster titled “Clinical assessment of the drug interaction potential of the psychotropic natural product kratom,” at the International Conference on the Science of Botanicals held March 28-31, 2022, in Oxford, Mississippi.

James Nguyen (Paine lab, PharmD ’20) tied for third place in the graduate student poster competition for his poster titled “Elucidating mechanisms underlying the goldenseal-midazolam interaction using a modeling and simulation approach,” at the International Conference on the Science of Botanicals.

Pravita Balijepalli won third place for the Outstanding Poster Award in the cancer pharmacology division at the 2022 Experimental Biology conference held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in April 2022. She is currently pursuing her dissertation project under the guidance of Pharmaceutical Sciences Interim Chair Professor Kathryn Meier. Pravita studies roles of phospholipids and their G-protein coupled receptors in prostate cancers. She presented her research findings as a poster at the conference.
Deepak Ahire (Prasad lab) presented, “Proteomics-informed physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modeling revealed differential effects of UGT2B17 variability on the pharmacokinetics of diclofenac following intravenous and oral administration,” at the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) Annual Meeting in April 2022. This was considered one of the top abstracts and selected for an oral presentation at the DMDD Award session.

Sheena Sharma (Prasad lab) presented a poster and oral Datablitz presentation titled, “Poor and variable oral bioavailability of dimethandrolone (DMA), an investigational male hormonal contraceptive, is likely associated with UGT2B17 mediated first-pass metabolism,” at the ASPET Annual Meeting.

Laken Kruger (Prasad lab) presented the poster, “Effect of phthalates and their metabolites on androgen related proteins in JEG-3 placental cells,” at the ASPET Annual Meeting Student Poster Competition session of the toxicology division.

Siavosh Naji-Talakar (PharmD Honors class of 2022, Prasad lab) and Laken Kruger (Prasad lab) presented the poster, “Effect of acetaminophen on placental endocrine proteomics and pathways in JEG-3 cells,” at the ASPET Annual Meeting Student Poster Competition session of the toxicology division.

Aarzoo Thakur (Prasad lab) presented the poster, “Assessing the effect of organic anion transporter inhibition on circulating pyridoxic acid, an endogenous transporter biomarker, using physiologically-based pharmacokinetic modeling,” at the ASPET Annual Meeting.

Rakshit Tanna (Paine lab) and James Nguyen (Paine lab, PharmD ’20) with faculty co-authors Deena Hadi, Matthew Layton, John White, Mary Paine and six other co-authors published, “Clinical pharmacokinetic assessment of kratom (Mitragyna speciosa), a botanical product with opioid-like effects, in healthy adult participants,” in Pharmaceutics in March 2022.

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Puneet Kaur (Honors class of 2022, Z. Wang lab) with faculty co-authors Regan Smith, Terri Levien and Danial Baker published, “Drug evaluation – efgartigimod (Vyvgart),” in the FMS in April 2022.

The follow students were chosen for WSU Health Sciences Chancellor’s Excellence Awards, presented in April 2022, for their demonstration of exceptional leadership and service to the university and the community:

– Chancellor’s Excellence Award in Leadership – Todd Riddle, class of 2023
– Chancellor’s Excellence Award in Leadership – Olivia Hiskey, class of 2023
– Chancellor’s Excellence Award in Leadership – Frank Liu, class of 2023
– Chancellor’s Legacy Award – Kellyan Nguyen

The following students and student group were selected for the WSU President’s Awards for Leadership presented April 16, 2022:

– Kellyan Nguyen, class of 2022
– Alice Pistorese, class of 2023
– Kiersten Stintzi, class of 2023
– APhA-ASP Spokane, WSU Spokane – Registered Student Organization of the Year